

**P2 E-News, Volume 2, Number 4  
April 2007**

**Welcome to P2 E-News!**

In this issue of **P2 E-News** we include information on DTSC's new Model Shop program for metal finishers, a calendar of the Environmental Chemistry Laboratory seminar series, upcoming DTSC Symposia on Biomonitoring and Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products, SB14 workshops, and more.

As always, please feel free to tell your friends and associates about **P2 E-News**! Anyone interested in receiving **P2 E-News** is welcome to subscribe using the DTSC Listserv webpage at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/Listservs/dtsc/> (scroll down to DTSC **P2 E-News** and click on Subscribe).

Got ideas for future issues? Send your comments or suggestions on how we can better serve you to [P2@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:P2@dtsc.ca.gov), or call the Pollution Prevention Hotline at (800) 700-5854.

**Pollution Prevention (P2) - Changing the way we think and act so we can reduce or eliminate the creation of waste and pollution**

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**Metal Finishing Model Shop Program**

Information about DTSC's Metal Finishing Model Shop Program has now been posted to the DTSC website at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/MFMS/index.cfm>.

The Metal Finishing Model Shop Program is assisting shops to reduce the amounts of waste they generate, which saves them the expense of dealing with that waste. The program also helps business owners reduce toxic emissions from their operations.

The website describes the benefits of the program, how to participate, and information about a guaranteed loan program that is available for Model Shop participants. You'll also find links to environmental compliance and pollution prevention information for metal finishers, and a business profile that describes the successful waste and energy reductions by the first model shop award recipient. More model shop names and achievements will be posted as they are recognized.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact the DTSC Model Shop Coordinators:  
Northern California: Natalie Marcano, [nmarcano@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:nmarcano@dtsc.ca.gov), (510) 540-3943  
Southern California: Evelina Rayas [eryas@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:eryas@dtsc.ca.gov), (818) 551-2936.

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**Biofuels**

MIT Ethanol Analysis Confirms Benefits of Biofuels

<http://web.mit.edu/newsoffice/2007/ethanol.html>

Past studies have claimed that the conversion of corn into ethanol uses more fossil fuel than the energy contained in the ethanol produced. These claims have fueled controversy over the benefits of using corn-based ethanol in vehicles. Using a technique called life cycle analysis, an MIT researcher has shown that the energy balance is actually so close that several factors can easily change whether ethanol ends up a net energy winner or loser. Replacing gasoline with corn-based ethanol significantly reduces oil consumption, regardless of the energy balance

between ethanol and petroleum production, because the biomass production and conversion process requires little petroleum.

Some economists are concerned that the growing demand for fuel ethanol will have a negative impact on food crop markets. The MIT studies show that making ethanol from cellulosic sources such as corn stover (corn stalks and husks) and switchgrass has far greater potential to reduce fossil energy use and greenhouse gas emissions than processing corn by fermentation, but the technology for converting them to ethanol may not be economically viable for another five years or so. As those technologies mature, cellulosic sources will be able to provide large quantities of ethanol for widespread use as a transportation fuel without creating a large impact on food crops. In the meantime, ethanol produced by fermentation of corn will serve as a stepping-stone away from fossil fuel use, and will encourage the development and marketing of flexible fuel vehicles. Once ethanol is accepted as a reliable automobile fuel, we will be ready to take advantage of production from more efficient sources in the future.

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## **Workshops**

### **FYI Speaker Series**

The Environmental Chemistry Laboratory (ECL) is hosting bi-weekly seminars (2nd and 4th Wednesdays) from 2-3 p.m. at the Environmental Chemistry Laboratory in Berkeley. The next three presentations are:

April 25, 2007: "Are present-day PBDE exposures for children unsafe?"

May 9, 2007: "Fuel Your Rocket: Perchlorate, California Lettuce, and Texas Breast Milk"

May 23, 2007: "Synthetic Pyrethroid Pesticides - Advances in Analytical Methods Development"

Complete Schedule for 2007:

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/upload/ECLSeminarMar2007.pdf>

For more information, please contact Dr. F. Reber Brown at [frbrown@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:frbrown@dtsc.ca.gov)

[www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/EmergingContaminants.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/EmergingContaminants.cfm)

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## **Conferences & Symposia**

### **Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products**

May 22, 2007 - Tuesday

10:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Cal/EPA Building, Byron Sher Auditorium

1001 I Street, Sacramento, California

Webcast: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast>.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Save the Date! The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is hosting a symposium entitled "Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCP) in the Environment" on Tuesday, May 22, in Sacramento.

The symposium will provide an introduction to what PPCPs are, information regarding their detection and fate in the environment, and current views on the potential for human health and environmental impacts. The symposium will feature speakers from the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency; the University of California Berkeley; the University of California Riverside; the Southern Nevada Water Authority; Merck & Co., Inc. on behalf of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) Pharmaceuticals in the Environment (PIE) Task Force; the State Water Resources Control Board; and the California Air Resources Board.

The symposium is free and open to the public. Go to DTSC's Pharmaceutical Waste web page at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/AssessingRisk/PPCP/index.cfm> for registration and additional information, including an agenda. Registration is required for on-site attendance, and space is limited. The symposium will also be available via webcast at <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast>. Webcast attendees are encouraged to register in order to receive notification of future symposia.

For questions about registration, contact Janice Denning ([jdenning@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:jdenning@dtsc.ca.gov)) at (916) 255-4326 or Sharon Kipp ([skipp@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:skipp@dtsc.ca.gov)) at (916) 324-2998. For other questions regarding the symposium, contact Tracy Taras ([ttaras@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:ttaras@dtsc.ca.gov)) at (916) 255-6646. Media: contact Ron Baker at (916) 324-3142.

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**Green Chemistry**

Look under "What's New" on the DTSC web site for a brief of the University of California Policy Research Center Special Report to the Legislature: "Green Chemistry in California: A Framework for Leadership in Chemicals Policy and Innovation"

[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/upload/Green\\_Chemistry\\_brief.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/upload/Green_Chemistry_brief.pdf)

The Complete Special Report to the Legislature is available at

<http://www.ucop.edu/cprc/greenchemistryrpt.pdf>

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**Statutes and Regulations**

Ever wonder how to find out whether laws have been proposed that could affect your business or field of interest? Ever find out that a law was passed that affected you; one that you would have commented about or suggested changes to your legislators before it was signed into law? The "Official California Legislative Information" site lets you search the past and current sessions by number, keyword or author, then trace the history, analysis and votes on each bill, or track the progress of current bills. The site also provides access to all of the California Codes, a resource to find your local legislators, and an explanation of the legislative process. Take a trip to <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/> and give it a try - look under "Bill Information" and try a search on the keyword "batteries" or "recycling", then try it with your industry or interest.

DTSC's website has a page that links to the current regulations (Title 22), the regulatory calendar, list of emergency regulations and regulatory concepts; find it at <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/LawsRegsPolicies/index.cfm>. While you're there, you can insure that you don't miss another comment period on that reg package you were interested in! DTSC's listserv homepage allows you to get on the mailing list for any or all regulatory packages. The regulatory listservs give you updates on regulation packages as they travel through the regulatory process.

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**SB-14 Workshops have begun!**

If you generated 12,000 kilograms of hazardous waste or 12 kilograms of extremely hazardous waste during 2006, pay attention! You may be subject to SB14 reporting requirements. If you're not sure, or have questions about the process, DTSC's Pollution Prevention Program provides you

with an SB14 Guidance Manual at  
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/SB14/upload/sb14-guidance-manual.pdf>  
and several PowerPoint SB14 training presentations at  
[http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/SB14/P2\\_presentations\\_SB14.cfm](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/SB14/P2_presentations_SB14.cfm).

Each generator subject to SB 14 needs to prepare 3 documents before September 1, 2007: 1) a Source Reduction Evaluation Review and Plan; 2) a Hazardous Waste Management Performance Report; and 3) a Summary Progress Report. The plan and both reports are to be kept onsite for public or regulator review; and only the Summary Progress Report must be submitted to DTSC by September 1, 2007.

DTSC has begun holding SB 14 planning and reporting training workshops throughout the state. Workshops will run through July 27; schedules and location information are available on the DTSC website at  
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/PollutionPrevention/SB14/upload/SB14Training20071.pdf>

Facilities and interested parties may also call DTSC at (916) 322-3670 for more information.

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### **Tailgate Talk - a little health and safety at the end of the day.**

Does your shop use eye protection? Our skin is an amazing barrier to chemicals and other materials, slowing or stopping the attacks of many things, but the eyes are surrounded by living tissues that provide immediate access for chemicals to enter our systems. Even environmentally-preferable cleaning solvents and materials can burn or irritate the eyes. Then, of course, there are physical injuries from falling or flying dirt, mechanical parts and tools. In many workplaces, the worker being exposed isn't necessarily the one doing the work - onlookers often have less protection than operators, and objects can fly across the room from grinders, air jets and other tools. Unlike many other injuries, eye injuries can make a person incapable of doing any work for a long period - it only takes one bandaged eye to keep you from driving to work! Many workers have tried safety glasses in the past and found them to be bulky and uncomfortable, but there are new designs of safety eyewear

that are light, comfortable, attractive and inexpensive. If you're not using them now, or if eyewear is optional at your shop, give the new safety glasses a try! You might be surprised. Owners, a box of safety glasses can save you lots of money from lost productivity and higher insurance rates. Don't hesitate to invite employees to take a pair home - you've heard it before, most accidents occur in the home, and a splinter in the eye from a weed whacker can keep you or your employee home just as long as a shard of glass from a broken lab apparatus or metal from a broken tool. Eye protection is a smart investment. Healthy = Happy!

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